

CHLORAMPHENICOL

SYNONYM	Chloramphenicol sodium succinate
TRADE NAME	CHLOROMYCETIN SUCCINATE
DRUG CLASS	Antibiotic
AVAILABILITY	Vial contains 1 g of chloramphenicol as chloramphenicol sodium succinate. ¹
pH	6.4–7 when reconstituted ¹
PREPARATION	Reconstitute the vial with water for injections, sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5%. Gently shake the vial. ¹ Recommended reconstitution is: ¹

Vial size	1 g	1 g	1 g
Reconstitute with	2.5 mL	4 mL	10 mL
Approximate concentration	400 mg/mL (IM use)	250 mg/mL	100 mg/mL (IV use)

STABILITY	Vial: store below 25 °C. ¹ Reconstituted solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. ¹ Do not use solutions that are cloudy. ¹
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ADMINISTRATION	
IM injection	Not the preferred route, absorption can be slow and unpredictable. ^{1,2} Inject the dose using the 400 mg/mL solution slowly into a large muscle. ²
SUBCUT injection	Not recommended
IV injection	Inject a maximum concentration of 100 mg/mL over at least 1 minute. ²
IV infusion	Dilute the dose with 50–100 mL of a compatible fluid and infuse over at least 10 minutes. ²
IV use for infants and children	Inject a maximum concentration of 100 mg/mL over 3 to 5 minutes or dilute to 20–25 mg/mL or weaker and infuse over 15 to 60 minutes. ^{3,4}

COMPATIBILITY	
Fluids	Glucose 5% ⁵ , glucose 10% ⁵ , glucose in sodium chloride solutions ⁵ , Hartmann's ⁵ , Ringer's ⁵ , sodium chloride 0.45% ⁵ , sodium chloride 0.9% ⁵
Y-site	Aciclovir ⁵ , esmolol ⁵ , foscarnet ⁵ , hydromorphone ⁵ , labetalol ⁵ , magnesium sulfate ⁵ , morphine sulfate ⁵ , pethidine ⁵

INCOMPATIBILITY	
Fluids	No information
Drugs	Adrenaline hydrochloride ¹ , ascorbic acid ⁶ , atropine ¹ , azathioprine ⁶ , benztropine ⁶ , caspofungin ⁶ , cefotaxime ⁶ , ceftazidime ⁶ , ceftriaxone ⁶ , chlorpromazine ⁵ , dobutamine ⁶ , dolasetron ¹ , dopamine ⁶ , ergometrine ¹ , erythromycin ⁶ , fluconazole ⁵ , ganciclovir ⁶ , gentamicin ⁶ , glycopyrrolate ⁵ , haloperidol lactate ⁶ , hydralazine ⁶ , metaraminol ⁶ , metoclopramide ⁵ , midazolam ⁶ , mycophenolate mofetil ⁶ , ondansetron ⁶ , pentamidine ⁶ , phentolamine ⁶ , potassium chloride ¹ , prochlorperazine mesylate ⁵ , promethazine ⁵ , protamine ⁶ , sodium ascorbate ⁶ , tigecycline ⁶ , vancomycin ⁵ , vecuronium ⁶ , verapamil ⁶

SPECIAL NOTES	Each gram of chloramphenicol contains 2.3 mmol of sodium. ⁵
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REFERENCES

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3. Taketomo C, Hodding J, Kraus D. Paediatric and neonatal dosage handbook. 19th ed. Hudson, Ohio: American Pharmacists Association. Lexicomp; 2012.
4. Phelps SJ, Hageman TM, Lee KR, Thompson AJ. Paediatric injectable drugs. The teddy bear book. 10th ed. Bethesda, Maryland: American Society of Health System Pharmacists; 2013.
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